

Michigan Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS)

High-Risk Behavior and Poor Academic Performance: Connecting the Dots

Methodology

- As part of nationwide survey led by the center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 43 Michigan high schools and 3,630 students participated in the YRBS in 2001, the most recent year in which analyses on both risk behaviors and academic performance are available. The high response rates allow the YRBS results to be generalized to all Michigan high school students.
- Students were asked to report on the risk behaviors listed in the chart, among others, and their typical grades in school.

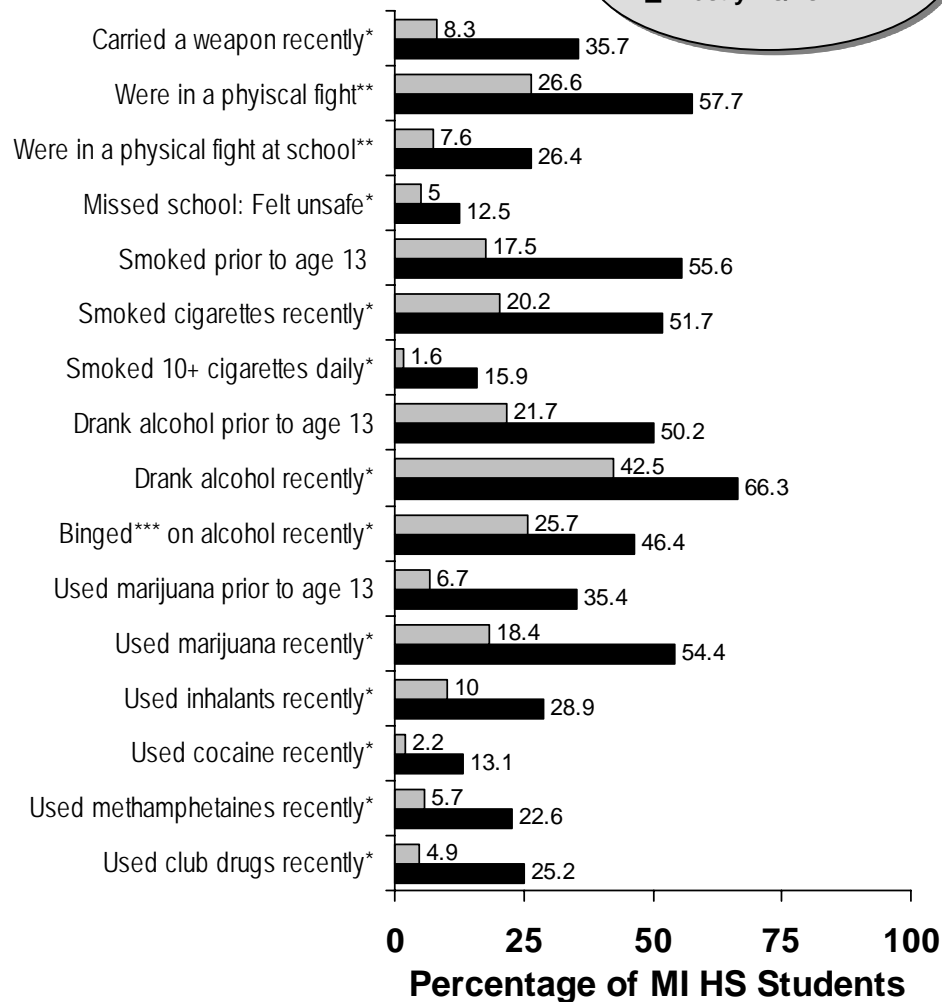
Summary of Results

Compared to students with high grades in school, low-performing HS students were:

- 3x more likely to have carried a weapon or fight
- 2x more likely to have missed school due to feeling unsafe
- 3x more likely to have started smoking cigarettes before age 13
- 2x more likely to have smoked cigarettes recently
- 10x more likely to have smoked cigarettes heavily (10+ daily)
- 2x more likely to have started drinking alcohol before age 13
- Nearly 2x more likely to have binged on alcohol recently
- 6x more likely to have started marijuana use before age 13
- 3x more likely to have used marijuana recently
- 3x more likely to have used inhalants recently
- 6x more likely to have used cocaine recently
- 4x more likely to have used methamphetamines recently
- 5x more likely to have used club drugs recently

Typical Grades in School

- Mostly As/Bs
- Mostly Ds/Fs



* During the previous 30 days preceding the survey

** During the previous 12 months preceding the survey

*** Had 5 or more drinks in a row